The austraLYSIS Electroband
Creating Australian Improvised Musics

"makes music on more technology than the Navy possesses" (Sydney Morning Herald, 2000)
"those doyens of computerised music" (Sydney Morning Herald, 2008)
"one of the best improvising bands in the world" (Time Out, Sydney, 2009)

The Electroband is available for performances around the world: contact roger.dean@westernsydney.edu.au. +61 481 309 612.

austraLYSIS has developed unusual techniques for control of rhythmic, timbral and harmonic interaction, and since 1995 has used computer interactive and networked technology in the austraLYSIS Electroband. "Incredible interaction" said the Wire (UK); "eclectic and consummate" said BBC Radio 3. Formed by Roger Dean in 1970 as the innovative European group LYSIS, austraLYSIS has played in 30 countries, and made more than thirty commercial recordings. Since 2010, austraLYSIS' work has been presented in countries such as Australia, Canada, Denmark, Romania, Singapore, UK, and the US.

The Electroband repertoire is based around free and process/interaction improvisation and comprovisation, mainly using compositions of Roger Dean, many written in the programming platform MAX/MSP/Jitter. Novel computer interaction, real-time computational sound processing and generation is used to complement and extend the acoustic instruments (primarily piano, saxophones), and often to form a complete continuum with them. A common feature is the use of dense polyrhythmic and polymetric structures. Real-time audio-visual performances (using Jitter for algorithmic image generation and manipulation) extend this further.

Our most recent releases are austraLYSIS: Music for Soprano Trombone, Piano and Electronics, listen or buy here australysis.bandcamp.com 2018; the austraLYSIS Electroband: History Goes Everywhere (Tall Poppies CD TP234, 2015). John Clare: 'History Goes Everywhere and space travels freely too ... I love it’. To hear a selection of live performance examples of the Electroband, go here, particularly to the mid-part of the reverse chronology.

austraLYSIS won the international 2018 Robert Coover Award for a work of Electronic Literature.

Members of the Electroband are: Roger Dean (leader, piano, computer); Sandy Evans (saxophones); Greg White (computer). austraLYSIS member Phil Slater often performs with the Electroband also. See overleaf for individual biographies.

Australian novelist and poet David Malouf has written of austraLYSIS' Tall Poppies CD Moving the Landscapes:
"Track after track commands our attention, not just with the drama of what austraLYSIS can do, but with the variety of means, instrumentally and rhythmically, and the degree of emotion they are prepared to risk. What I liked best of all was the inwardness these performers develop, the sense we get of their moving off alone, without compromising the drama of interplay; most of all, without ever releasing
tension. This is improvisation that offers increased pleasure at every hearing...Moving the Landscapes is a real coup."


EDUCATIONAL and RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

In conjunction with performance events, the austraLYSIS Electroband also offers performance masterclasses, and also lecture/recital/workshops on: jazz and its development; 20th century developments in improvisation and composition; and process and computer interaction in improvisation. Following his well known books on Creative Improvisation (1989: a practical book), and New Structures in Jazz and Improvised Music (1992: a musicological work), and others on improvisation, the research of leader Roger Dean now concerns music cognition and computation and particularly, improvisation. He has evolved an empirical project on interpersonal interactions during small group improvisation, correlated with ongoing computational and musicological analysis of the resultant works. Sandy Evans and Greg White both also have extensive educational experience (notably with the University of New South Wales, and with the Australian Institute of Music and SAE, respectively. Like Roger, both have doctoral research degrees, Sandy for studies of the inter-relations between Indian and jazz improvisation, Greg for studies of the convergence of performance/mixing/and sound projection in computer interactive music. austraLYSIS has given workshops in many countries, for lay and student participants (e.g. in New Zealand and Australia; Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Hong Kong, and India; and widely in Europe).

BOOKINGS and Enquiries to: austraLYSIS Productions, PO Box 225, Milperra, NSW 2214. Telephone: +61 481 309612 or +61 2 9501 5399. email: dr.metagroove@mindless.com.

Go to the austraLYSIS web site (http://www.australysis.com/hear-see-read/aLYS-works/worksIndex.html) for sound/video examples of the Electroband (particularly on the Electroacoustic Improvisation page) and of all other austraLYSIS work.

The Electroband in action:
Some cd releases:

**Brief Biographies of Musicians**

*Roger Dean* Composer-improviser and research academic. A former double-bassist, having commissioned and premiered many solo works in performances at the Wigmore Hall, South Bank London, and around the world, and worked with ensembles from the London Sinfonietta and Spectrum (UK), to the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Sydney Alpha Ensemble (Australia). Jazz and improvising pianist notably with Graham Collier Music (since 1974 until his death in 2011), accompanist to many soloists (Gerald English, Colin Lawson, Hazel Smith, John Wallace ...), and computer composer and improviser.
Has worked with improvisers Ted Curson to Tomas Stanko, Terje Rypdal to Derek Bailey, Art Themen to Evan Parker, and most of the leading figures in Australia, including many other pianists (in duo, and recently duet, formats). Founder of (austral)LYSIS. He is a research professor in music cognition and computation at the MARCS Institute, Western Sydney University. His biography is available on Wikipedia.

**Sandy Evans** Saxophonist and composer. One of Australia's leading improvisers, co-founder of Clarion Fracture Zone and of Gestate, and member of the Australian Art Orchestra. Member of austraLYSIS since its inception in Sydney, and featured on most of its subsequent recordings. Particularly involved in the interaction of Indian and jazz/improvisation music traditions. Now also a lecturer in jazz at the University of New South Wales.

**Phil Slater** Trumpeter and composer. Member of austraLYSIS since 2001. Phil is extremely well known for his work with Mike Nock, the Australian Art Orchestra, and particularly his collaborations with Simon Barker and Matt McMahon. Many of his compositions are available on CD. Phil also teaches at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and is currently completing a PhD on instrumental sound and its relation to spaces and environments.

**Greg White** Composer-improviser and computer sound artist. A developer since 1989 in interactive technologies mostly using MAX, and long standing audio engineer/producer and sound diffusionist. He has contributed to the production of many hundreds of commercial releases, as well as many film and installation sound designs and compositions. A founder member of the austraLYSIS Electroband, and a key contributor to its aesthetic and technological developments. Was also Head of Composition and Music Production at the Australian Institute of Music (Sydney), and the designer of Masters level courses for SAE. His PhD is on the possibilities for convergence of audio creation, production and presentation in computer interactive music (sometimes now called intelligent music production).

For more biographical info: go to our [website](#).